

REMARKS

A statement that the present application is the National Stage of International Application No. PCT/EP2003/009112 has been added immediately after the TITLE.

Claims 1-2, 19-20, and 26-27 have been amended to recite Markush groups to conform with U.S. practice. These amendments do not change the scope of the claims in any way.

Claim 2 has also been amended to replace "as in claim 1 wherein" with "according to claim 1 comprising" to conform with U.S. practice. This amendment does not change the scope of the claim in any way.


Claims 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, and 18 have been amended to remove multiple dependencies and to recite "according to claim" to conform with U.S. practice.

Claims 21-25 have been canceled without prejudice.

It is submitted that no new matter has been introduced by the foregoing amendments. Approval and entry of the amendments is respectfully solicited.

Favorable action on the merits including entry of the Preliminary Amendment prior to examination on the merits and allowance of all the claims, respectfully, is requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this paper, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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